# 1<sup>st</sup> Street 2-way Conversion Study



#### Outline

- Study Purpose/Scope
- Project Benefits
- Examples
- Considerations
- Proposed Concept
- Proposed Traffic Control Devices
- Next Steps



Source: Google

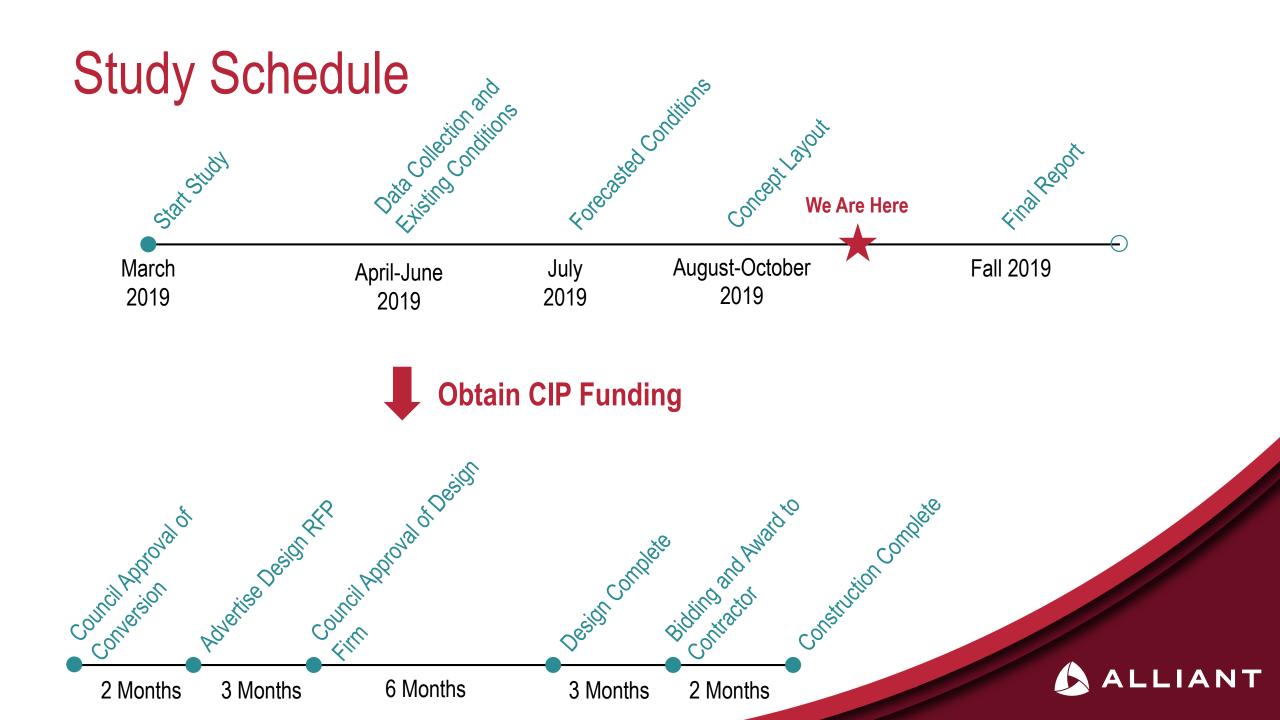


## Study Purpose/Scope



- Improve safety!
- Improve access and circulation
- Downtown is changing!
- Conversion limited to signing, marking, and traffic control changes only

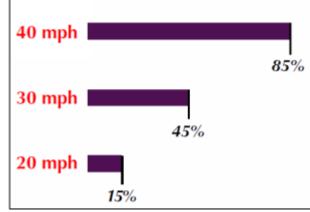




#### Benefits

- Traffic Calming
- Convenience/Economics
- Traffic Mobility
- Residential Access

When a person is struck by a motor vehicle, they have the following chances of death according to Killing Speed and Saving Lives, UK Department of Transportation:

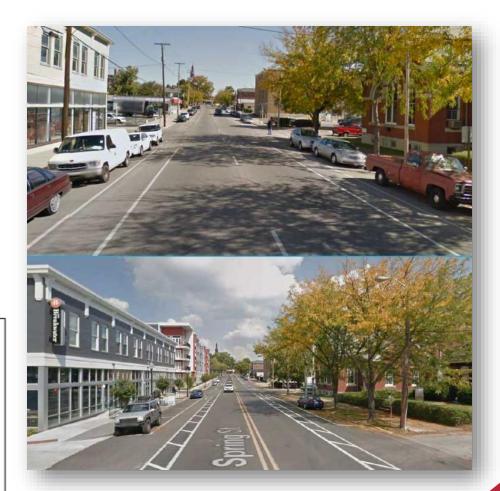


Oregon Main Street Handbook: When a highway runs through it!

#### Average Roadway Speeds

BEFORE Conversion: 30-45 mph AFTER Conversion: 20-25 mph

> "Converting One-way Streets to Two-way" www.preservationnation.org



New Albany, IN Source: cnu.org



#### **Example Conversions**



Cedar Rapids, IA Source: cnu.org

- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Avenues, Duluth, MN
- Hennepin and 1st Avenues, Minneapolis, MN
- East Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI
- Downtown CBD, Cedar Rapids, IA
- East Spring Street, New Albany, IN
- Main and 2nd Streets, Ottumwa, IA
- Court and Walnut Avenues, Des Moines, IA

#### Considerations



**Traffic Operations / Intersection Control** 



**Parking Impacts** 



**Business and Truck Access** 

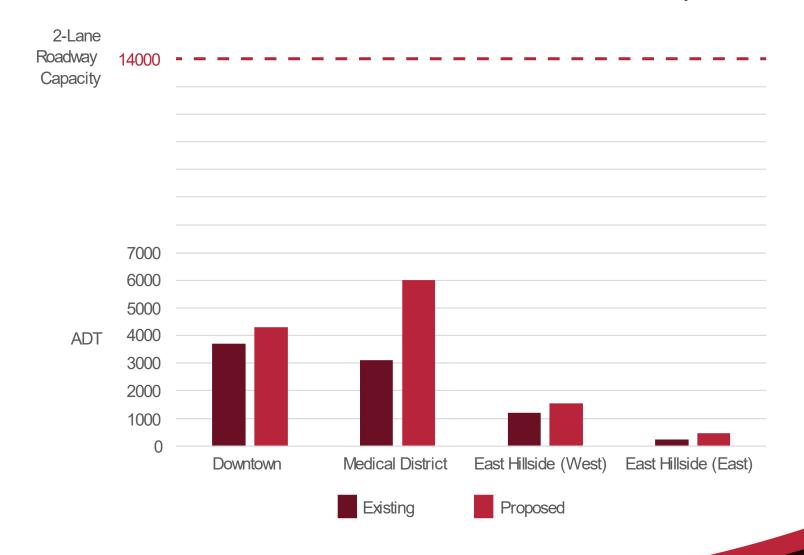


Pedestrian and Transit Impacts



# Traffic Operations / Intersection Control

- How will traffic operate under two-way conditions?
- What type of intersection traffic control will there be under two-way conditions?



#### Findings

- Conversion will have acceptable levels of service along corridor
- Opportunity to revise intersection traffic controls.



### Parking Impacts





Source: Google

- How will on-street parking be impacted?
- How will off-street parking be impacted?

#### Findings:

- Conversion will not impact onstreet parking or existing loading operations.
- No property access (ingress/egress) operational changes needed



# Business and Truck Access

- How will business access be impacted?
- How will truck access be impacted?
- Findings:
  - Business access will be greatly improved with logical circulation
  - Existing loading zones remain for conversion. No Changes.
  - In-lane loading (illegal) must shift to loading zones, side streets, or alleys.

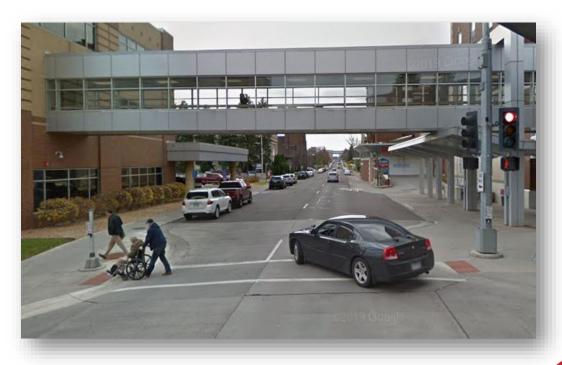






#### Pedestrian and Transit Impacts

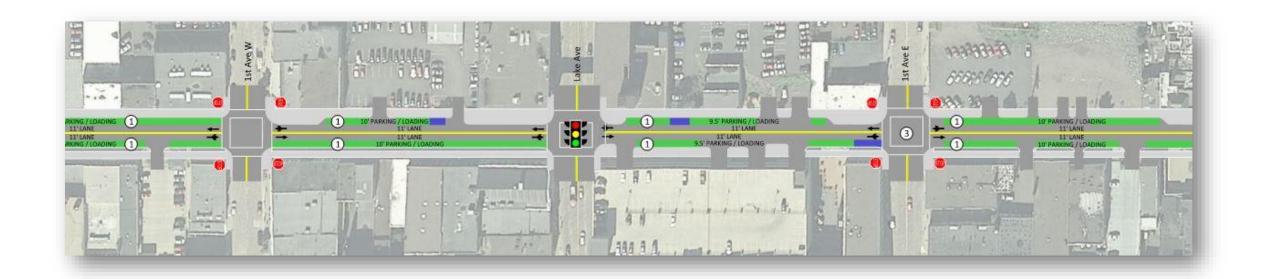
- How will pedestrians be impacted?
- How will transit be impacted?
- Findings:
  - Conversion will help lower vehicle speeds which will reduce severity of pedestrian crashes
  - On-street parking "buffer" between pedestrians and roadway will remain
  - Transit operations will not be impacted



Source: Google



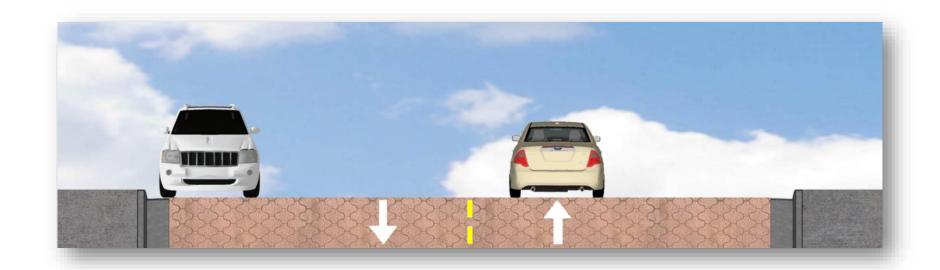
### **Proposed Concept**



- Two travel lanes
- On street parking/loading spaces will continue on both sides of street
- Changes to traffic control devices at some intersections

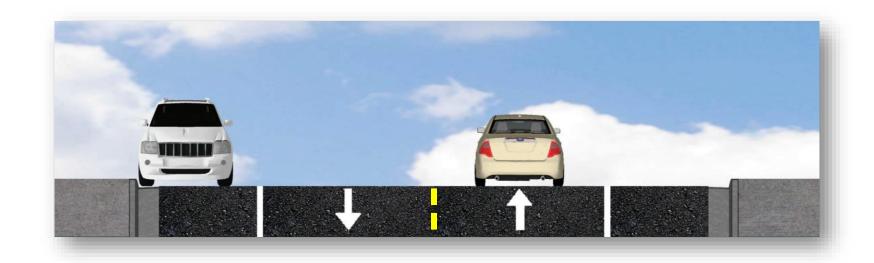


#### Downtown Segment (Mesaba Ave to 4<sup>th</sup> Ave E)





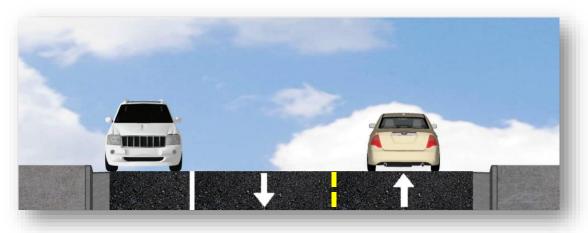
#### Medical District Segment (4<sup>th</sup> Ave E to 12<sup>th</sup> Ave E)



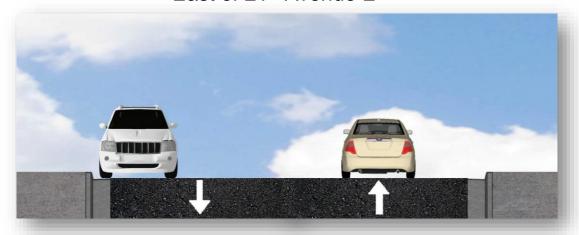


## East Hillside Segment (12th Ave E to 24th Ave E)

West of 21st Avenue E



East of 21st Avenue E





#### Traffic Control Change Benefits





- Traffic controls serve specific need
- State/Federal standards guide installation
- Balance standards with intersection characteristics
- Signal removal results in annual maintenance, electrical and operation savings

